

NATIVE ROOTS

To promote the enjoyment & stewardship of natural areas in West Central Indiana!

Vol 6 Issue #3 MAY-JUN 2010

Purdue Master Gardener State Conference

2010 GARDENING ODYSSEY!

THU JUN 17th – SAT JUN 19th

at the Beck Agricultural Center: 4540 US 52, West Lafayette, IN

Featured speakers:

Claire Sawyers – “Cultivating a Sense of Place”

Tom Turpin – “Teaching about Insects, Travels with a Chicken, and Other Tales”

Brent Ladd “An Ecological Odyssey: Foundations for a Livable Future”

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 4th (don't wait--space is limited)

Register at: www.conf.purdue.edu/gardener or call 765-494-9482

Conference details: www.hort.purdue.edu/mgconf

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

West Central Chapter of INPAWS - Indiana Native Plant & Wildflower Society

WC-INPAWS PROGRAM Meetings—fourth Mondays at 7pm

at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area, West Lafayette

NO REGULAR PROGRAM MEETINGS MAY, JUNE & JULY

For more information about WC-INPAWS, contact:

PgmChair: Susan Ulrich 765-583-2275 sueandtedulrich@msn.com

Pres: Reni Winter 765-714-4288 wildflowers@winterhavenfarm.us

NATIVE PLANTS sold here...

George Peregrin—Native Plants Unlimited: over 100 species!

APR 30th thru MAY 15th – NATIVE PLANT SALE

at GreenCycle of Indiana: 2695 Cicero Rd (SR 19), Noblesville, IN

Plant list/order form/hours: www.nativeplantsunlimited.com

Questions? 317-506-5456 or nativeplants@earthlink.net

INPAWS Native Plant & Book Sale and Auction—

SAT, MAY 8th 10:15am-12:30pm (9:30am pre-sale presentation)

at Trinity Church: 3243 N. Meridian St, Indianapolis

Details at: www.inpaws.org

Questions? Melissa Moran 317-295-2021 morantam@gmail.com

2010 Opening Day Plant Sale & Monarch Waystation Workshop—

SAT, MAY 15th – noon to 6pm Winterhaven Wildflowers, West Point

Plants for monarch habitats; volunteer opportunities for scout badges

and Master Naturalist/Master Gardener requirements; walks & more!

Info: Reni Winter at 765-714-4288 or www.winterhavenfarm.us

Tippecanoe SWCD –2nd 2010 Spring Tree & Plant Order (possibly)

More plants may be for sale; if so, deadline to order is June 4th.

Plant list & order form on-line at www.tippecanoe-county-swcd.org

Call to find out whether 2nd order was placed: 765-474-9992 ext 3

Walter Beineke—The Land Nursery (725 W. south of Martell Forest)

Mainly native trees and shrubs; by appointment only.

For plant list & more info: 765-463-2994 or wbein2@verizon.net

NATURAL AREAS FIELD DAY – SAT, MAY 15th

9:30am–2pm at Coneflower Shelter in Prophetstown State Park

For landowners wanting to improve the quality of land's natural habitat
by prairie restoration~savanna management~invasive species control!

RSVP to Megan Benage (Tipp Co SWCD): 765-474-9992 ext110

NATIVE & INVASIVE PLANT Conference

SAT, JUN 19th 1-5:30pm CDT at University of Evansville Campus

Keynote Speaker: Doug Tallamy, author of *Bringing Nature Home*

To reserve your \$12 donation ticket, contact:

Bonnie Bittner 812-867-0729 or bonnie.bittner@in.nacdn.net

Other info on website: vandswcd.org

MIDWEST NATIVE PLANT Conference

FRI-SUN, AUG 6-7-8 Bergamo Retreat Center in Dayton, Ohio

Lectures & workshops on native landscaping, wildlife, wetlands,

prairies, rain gardens, pollinators, insect songs & more. Keynote

speaker is Julie Zickefoose. For details & special conference rate,

REGISTER by JUL 4th at www.cincinnati-birds.com/mwnp

SYCAMORE AUDUBON SOCIETY (SAS)

www.sycamoreaudubon.org

SAS PROGRAM Meetings—second Thursdays at 7:15pm

at Lilly Nature Center in Celery Bog Nature Area, West Lafayette

Dinner with the speaker is at 6pm in the MCL Cafeteria-West Lafayette

~ open to the public ~

THURS, MAY 13 “Birds and Wildlife of India”

— Russ Mumford, former Purdue Professor of Wildlife Science, shares
his photos & paintings from his travels in the forest reserves of India.

NO SAS MEETINGS IN JUNE, JULY & AUGUST.

PGM CHAIR—Diane Packett: 765-463-9231 or dlpackett@pex.net

“BIG DAY IN MAY” BIRD COUNT – SAT MAY 8th

The Sycamore Audubon Society sponsors counts in three counties:

Tippecanoe: Barny Dunning 765-494-3565w, jdunning@purdue.edu

Warren: Susan Ulrich 765-583-2275, sueandtedulrich@msn.com

White: Rick Read 574-583-3431, Richardaread@hotmail.com

This is an all volunteer effort to provide a local snapshot of bird
numbers and locations during what is traditionally the height of
songbird migration. To help, simply contact one of the compilers.

SAS FIELD TRIPS

SAT MAY 15th Tippecanoe River State Park & Winamac SF&WA

Jon Chapman leads this trip to his favorite birding spots in two

outstanding state refuges that straddle US-31, 4 miles north of

Winamac—birding in various habitats to view resident & migrant

waterfowl and passerines. Meet Jon at 7:30am at TRSP Waterfowl

Area Parking Lot or join CARPOOL (departing from two locations):

6am Celery Bog gravel parking lot in W Lafayette-Barny Dunning

6:30am Monticello Public Library - Rick Read: 574-583-3431

SAT MAY 29th Martell Forest Trip (half-day)

Meet at 7am at the entrance to Purdue's Martell Forest on east side

of County Rd 725 West in Tippecanoe County (south of SR 26 &

north of Division Rd) to look for birds of the mature forest plus late

spring migrants, such as the Connecticut Warbler!

THURSDAY EARLY BIRD HIKES at HORT PARK thru MAY 27th *

Start time: 8:00am *(NOTE: Barny may not be at the MAY 20th hike.)

Meet in the east parking lot of Hort Park in grove of River Birches

on McCormick Rd across from Purdue West shopping center in WL.

Hike/trip info: Barny 494-3565w, 497-3082h, jdunning@purdue.edu

Celery Bog TRAIL WALKS to Observe Nature Unfolding

Led by Sam Postlethwait – TUESDAYS: weekly to November

Meet Sam at 9:55am in the exercise room at University Place

off Lindberg Rd just west of Celery Bog Nature Area, West Lafayette

For more info, contact Sam: spostlw8@mac.com

RAIN GARDENS...What are they and why should I care?

TUES, MAY 25th 7-8:30pm Lilly Nature Ctr/Celery Bog Nature Area

Workshop by Dan Dunten, Stewardship Coordinator for WL P&R Dept

West Laf/Laf residents who attend and want to put in their own

rain garden will be eligible for a cost share program.

Details: Dan Dunten 765-775-5172, ddunten@westlafayette.in.gov

HOOSIER RIVERWATCH BASIC TRAINING

SAT, JUN 19th 10am-5pm at NICHES Hewitt Estate

on Mud Pine Creek in Warren County

Directions: www.nicheslandtrust.org/Newsletters/2009March.pdf

Pre-registration required:

Tanya Lodics 765-412-9449 or friendsofbigpinecreek@gmail.com

CELEBRATE the WILDCAT at ADAMS MILL

SAT, JUN 5th 10am – 4pm (1/2 mile east of Cutler, IN)

Recreation: Canoe rides/nature hikes ~ Mill tours ~ Kids' activities

Information Booths: Wildcat Creek ~ Environment & Conservation

Food & Beverages: For purchase or bring a picnic lunch

Sponsored by Wildcat Creek Foundation & Wildcat Guardians

"WEDNESDAYS in the WILD"

Natural History Talks/Workshops/Field Trips

MAY-JUL 7, 2010 1-3pm or As Noted

May 5th 1-3pm Woodland Gems (Spring Wildflowers) ..M-S
Wildflower aficionados Chris & Jim Brewster lead this sunny weather walk to see woodland flora in this small nature preserve.

May 12th 1-3pm Indiana's Native Shrubs in Flower PWA
Sally Weeks (Purdue Dendrologist) says "Shrubs are flowering plants too!" On this walk, she will review as many as are blooming—should be quite a few since there are about 50 shrub species here!

May 19th 1-3pm NICHES Property Walk & Talk GSB
Gus Nyberg (NICHES Executive Director) leads this naturalist ramble to explore the rare natural community of the sand barrens at Granville Sand Barrens. Hairly Puccoon & Fringed Puccoon in bloom!

May 26th 7-9pm Puddles in the Woods: Vernal Pools LNC
Naturalist Mary Cutler (Tippecanoe County Park & Rec Dept) will provide an overview of the incredible ecology of these unique wetlands, followed by a chance to go outdoors to experience a vernal pool and meet its inhabitants. **Bring BOOTS!**

Jun 2nd 1-3pm Upclose Bird ID Using Mist Nets WNC
Mick & Sally Weeks (Purdue Dept of Forestry & Natural Resources) will demonstrate the use of mist nets and identify the birds that come to the nets during this program. A wonderful opportunity to get an upclose look at our local birds!

Jun 9th 1-3pm Birds of the Grasslands STPK
Join Susan Ulrich and other members of the Sycamore Audubon Society on this prairie walk to talk about grassland bird species, as well as identify the plants, insects, and other critters seen along the way! **NOTE: Bring binoculars & park pass or \$5/car gate fee.**

Jun 16th 1-3pm NICHES Property Walk & Talk W-L
Gus Nyberg (NICHES Executive Director) leads this exploration of oak woodlands in Warren Co. along the bluffs of the Wabash River.

Jun 23rd 1-3pm Stream CrittersBring BOOTS!..... BEEC
Explore Burnett Creek and find out who lives there! Program led by Naturalist Mary Cutler (Tippecanoe County Park & Rec Dept).

Jun 30th 8-10pm Goin' Batty (ALL about BATS) BEEC
Join Naturalist Mary Cutler in exploring the fascinating world of Indiana's bats! An indoor program highlighting bat natural history will be followed by bat-watching at the Battlefield! **Bring a flashlight!**

Jul 7th 8-10pm Fireflies—nature's little night lights! .. LNC
Why the lights? How do they do it? Find out with Purdue Entomologist Arwin Provonsha. **Bring a flashlight!**

LOCATIONS of these FREE PGMS—OPEN to the PUBLIC

BEEC (Brier Environmental Educ Ctr): In Battle Ground, turn by small sign on south side of Prophet St near intersection with N. 9th St.

GSB (Granville Sand Barrens): Meet at 1pm in property parking lot (directions at www.nicheslandtrust.org) OR join 12:30 LNC carpool.

LNC (Lilly Nature Center/Celery Bog Nature Area): On north side of Lindberg Rd (betw Northwestern & McCormick) in West Lafayette.

M-S (Michaud-Sinninger/Cumberland Woods): Meet in athletic complex parking lot on Salisbury, just north of Cumberland Ave, WL.

PWA (Purdue Wildlife Area): Take 26 west across Purdue Campus; ¼ mile past 750 W, turn right (north) into gravel drive where big white pines start (small black & white sign); park at end of lane.

STPK (Prophetstown State Pk): Enter the park via Swisher Rd (off N. 9th Street just south of Battle Ground); meet at the Coneflower Picnic Shelter in Prairie View Picnic Area **Pass or \$5/car gate fee to enter.**

W-L (Weiler-Leopold): Meet at 1pm in Weiler-Leopold parking lot (directions at www.nicheslandtrust.org) OR join 12:30 LNC carpool.

WNC (Wah-ba-shik-a Nature Center): In Battle Ground, at the end of the Battlefield Monument parking lot off N. 9th St.

Sponsored by: Mary Cutler-TIPP CO Park & Rec Dept, Dan Dunten-WL Parks & Rec, Sycamore Audubon Soc, WC-INPAWS, NICHES
FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact:

Mary Cutler (765-567-2993), Dan Dunten (765-775-5172), or Editor

NATURE PROGRAMS for KIDS

At Ritchey Woods Nature Preserve in Fishers, IN

Info: Heidi Shoemaker 317-595-3449 or www.fishers.in.us/parks

At Zion Nature Center in Zionsville, IN

Info: Therese Burkhard 317-873-8930 or znaturecenter@aol.com

At WOLF PARK* – summer day camps/overnight camps for kids

Wolves & foxes & more: for kids ages 5-7, 8-10, or 11-12

*Located at 4004 E 800 N, Battle Ground, Indiana

Info on dates/cost: 765-567-2265 or www.wolfpark.org

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Protect woodland wildflowers--PULL GARLIC MUSTARD!!!

The INPAWS (Remove Invasive Plant) Squad
could use your help at its **SPRING 2010 workdays**
Plastic bags will be provided, but bring gloves & dress for poison ivy!

WEDNESDAYS 3-5pm

THURSDAYS 3-5pm

West Lafayette Parks

Tippecanoe County Parks

May 5 Celery Bog Nature Area

May 6 Ross Hills Park

May 12 Celery Bog Nature Area

May 13 Prophet's Rock Woods

May 19 Happy Hollow Park

May 20 Ross Hills Park

May 26 Celery Bog Nature Area

May 27 Ross Hills Park

Workday Meeting Locations

Call contact person** about iffy weather & to confirm meeting place

Celery Bog Nature Area—Meet in parking lot by Lilly Nature Ctr, WL

Happy Hollow Park—Meet in last parking lot after entering the park from Happy Hollow Rd in West Lafayette.

****Dan Dunten 765-775-5172 or Bob Cheever 765-775-5124**

Prophet's Rock Woods—Meet at little Prophet's Rock parking lot on Prophets Rock Road, just north of 600N (toward Battle Ground).

Ross Hills Park—Meet at far end of park's last parking area (loop drive). Ross Hills is located off Division Rd near Ravines Golf Course.

****Joan 567-7023, Mary Sue 765-589-3228, or Margareta 463-5093**

NICHES Land Trust - Helping Ecosystems Survive!

www.nicheslandtrust.org ~ 765-423-1605

NEXT BOARD MEETINGS -- 7 pm TUES: May 25th, Jun 22nd
in the Wells Center at 638 North St, Lafayette

WORKDAYS at NICHES Properties

SATURDAYS thru MAY 22nd Moyer-Gould Woods—Carroll Co.
9am-noon: variety of workday projects. For property directions/info, contact site steward **Fred Bergner 765-427-3475 bergner@fni.com**

NOTE: May 8th workday followed by 1pm hike with Brad Weigel
Details: Brad Weigel 765-423-1605 or niches@nicheslandtrust.org

NICHES EVENTS/OUTINGS

FRI MAY 7th 6-8pm NICHES Annual Meeting & 15th Anniversary

Program includes "Art in Nature Exhibit" & Silent Auction

at Tippecanoe Art Federation Wells Center at 638 North St, Lafayette

NICHES at Sagamore West Farmers Market* 3:30-6pm on:

WED, MAY 12th (Native Plants) and WED, JUN 2nd (Pond Life)

*parking lot off Salisbury St just north of Cumberland Ave in W. Laf

SAT JUN 5th 9am-2:30pm Family Float on Sugar Creek

Canoe the creek with Friends of Sugar Creek & NICHES starting from the new Public Access Site at Bachner Nature Preserve!

RSVP: Matt Williams 765-376-5213 matt@friendsofsugarcreek.org

COMMUNITY GREEN EVENTS

GREEN DRINKS –TUE, MAY 11th 6:30pm -- Clear-Blue-Green

business certification program supporting sustainable businesses, at Spurlock's (721 Main St, Laf) **Info: Falon French 765-430-0979**

ART on the GREEN –SAT, JUN 12th 11am-4pm Art Museum Gr Laf

Free recycled art activities, environmental info booths, music/dancing **AND MORE! Details to come at: www.artlafayette.org**

WORKDAYS – The Nature Conservancy in Indiana

SAT, MAY 8, 9am-12noon CDT Violet Planting in Newton County

Violets (the larval food source of the endangered regal fritillary butterfly) to be planted into a Prairie Restoration at Kankakee Sands.

RSVP/info: Alyssa Nyberg 219-285-2184 or anyberg@tnc.org

SAT, MAY 8, 10am-2pm EDT Garlic mustard pull in Warren County

Join this effort to eliminate a major threat to forest ecosystems at Fall Creek Gorge Nature Preserve.

LIMITED to first 15 volunteers; carpooling encouraged.

RSVP/info: Stuart Orr 574-780-2059 or sorr@tnc.org

SATs, JUN 5 & 12, 10am-3pm EDT Seed Collection in Marshall Co.

Seeds (unavailable commercially) will be collected to supplement the wetland plantings at Houghton Lake N. P. fen restoration.

RSVP/info: Stuart Orr 574-780-2059 or sorr@tnc.org

Why this newsletter?

If you're like me, you'd like to have all your nature news in one place—so you don't miss out on some interesting natural history programs or stewardship opportunities. That's my intent here.

Submissions for JUL-AUG issue need to reach me by JUN 25th.

Please send your info to mohrsamuels@comcast.net

or call (765) 567-7023. **Joan Mohr Samuel, Editor**